

Senate Resolution 1484

By: Senator Butler of the 55th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending J. Tom Morgan; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, J. Tom Morgan is a nationally recognized expert on the prosecution of crimes  
3 against children and has appeared on CNN's *Talk Back Live*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, Court  
4 TV, *The Today Show*, and *48 Hours*; and

5 WHEREAS, he served as the District Attorney of DeKalb County, Georgia for 12 years and  
6 was the first prosecutor in Georgia to specialize in the prosecution of crimes against children,  
7 and is currently a trial lawyer in private practice in Decatur, Georgia specializing in criminal  
8 and civil litigation; and

9 WHEREAS, he has dedicated his career to child advocacy and is committed to helping  
10 young people avoid being both victims and perpetrators of crimes, and has served on the  
11 United States Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect and chaired Georgia's Child  
12 Abuse Prevention Panel; and

13 WHEREAS, recognizing the need to treat victims of child abuse, J. Tom was a founding  
14 member and is currently vice chair of the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, Inc., which  
15 provides free counseling to children who are victims of child abuse; and

16 WHEREAS, J. Tom has spoken to tens of thousands of teenagers and parents regarding  
17 Georgia laws that impact young people and has listened to their stories, and with an engaging  
18 presentation that generates open and frank discussion with his audience, J. Tom is in demand  
19 as a speaker at schools, colleges, churches, and other community groups; and

20 WHEREAS, the insights J. Tom has gained from speaking with teenagers, as well as his  
21 experience as a prosecutor and private attorney, inspired J. Tom to write *Ignorance is No*  
22 *Defense, A Teenager's Guide to Georgia Law*; and

23 WHEREAS, realizing that many teenagers often do not fully understand the law and its  
24 consequences, in *Ignorance is No Defense, A Teenager's Guide to Georgia Law*, J. Tom  
25 explains Georgia laws in a readable, informative way using real-life examples and aspires  
26 to help teenagers avoid situations in which they violate the law or are hurt by others who  
27 violate the law.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
29 join in recognizing and commending J. Tom Morgan.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
31 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to J. Tom Morgan.